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RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 370

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(46)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|   |  |
|---|--|
| First Named Inventor : Bruce C. Johnson | RECEIVED<br>FEB - 3 2000<br>TC 3700 MAIL ROOM<br>Group Art Unit: 761<br>Examiner: A. Lewis |
| Appln. No. : 08/874,781                 |  |
| Filed : June 13, 1997                   |  |
| Title : NASAL DILATOR                   |  |
| Docket No. : C348.12-0013               |  |

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**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

**BOX AF**  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

I CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING SENT BY U.S. MAIL, FIRST CLASS, TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, THIS 26<sup>th</sup> DAY OF

January 2000.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PATENT ATTORNEY

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on December 7, 1999. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please rewrite the following claims as indicated:

Sub  
N1/  
Att

3. (Thrice amended) A nasal dilator for preventing outer wall tissue of nasal passages of a user's nose from drawing in during breathing, comprising:
- a flexible truss member having an initial state absent flexure thereof, the truss member including:
    - a first end region having an adhesive thereat so as to be adapted to adhesively engage the outer wall tissue of a first nasal passage;
    - a second end region having an adhesive thereat so as to be adapted to adhesively engage the outer wall tissues of a second nasal passage;

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